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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, May 10, 1999

FHSU Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

The Faculty Senate met at approximately 3:05 p.m., Monday, May 10, 1999, in Room 102 Yates Hall with Dr. James Sours, President, presiding.

April Minutes

The minutes of April 19, 1999, were approved as distributed.

Announcements

Dr. Ratzlaff's Remarks

Dr. Robert Ratzlaff, Vice President for Academic Affairs, reported that the May Board of Regents meeting would most likely react favorably to a library fee of \$1.00 per credit hour to be matched by the state legislature. This would result in \$300,000-\$320,000 increase to our library. It would go into effect in the fall of 2000.

Dr. Ratzlaff stated that the focus of the Freshman Experience class is critical thinking and preparing students for the academic rigor of the university. Retention is a by-product of this course.

PSU/KNEA President's Remarks

Dr. Harry Humphries, PSU/KNEA Vice President, reported that the negotiating teams had met three times and would meet again this week. He felt they were close to an agreement and hoped to have a contract to review before the end of the semester. The University Professor rank is also under discussion. He is still awaiting word on the Intellectual Properties issue.

Faculty Senate President's Remarks

Dr. James Sours stated that the new Faculty Senate executive committee met and the committee assignments for the '99-00 academic year will be published soon.

Committee Reports

- (a) Academic Affairs - Nothing new to report.
- (b) All-University - Nothing new to report.
- (c) Constitution - Nothing new to report.
- (d) Faculty Affairs - In the process of revising forms.
- (e) Student-Faculty - Nothing new to report.

Old Business

Academic Standards Model Proposal

A motion was made to table the proposal until the fall. The committee is awaiting the results of a survey and for PSU/KNEA to provide information. The motion passed.

By-laws to constitution - final vote

A motion was made to accept the changes. The motion passed.

New Business

Freshman Experience

Dr. Christine Fogliasso presented course objectives of the Freshman Experience course that are found in the new Freshman Experience Teachers' Handbook. The objectives include Critical Thinking Skills, Social and Interpersonal Skills, University Skills and Information, Time Management, Money Management, and Self-Esteem. A pre-test and a post-test are given to assess course outcomes. Retention is a by-product of this course and is not a course objective.

Trisha Duffy and T.J. Roberts, former Freshman Experience students, told about their experiences in the class. Bob Wilkinson, Director of Institutional Research, provided a handout detailing retention since 1986. A copy is attached to the minutes.

A motion was made that the Director of the Freshman Experience course return to the Faculty Senate in Spring 2001 to address how well Freshman Experience is meeting its objectives. The motion was approved.

Higher Education Governance SB 345

Dr. Mary Carol Pomatto, Assistant to the President, reported on the approximate final version of SB 345. This bill provides for the process for how funding should be instituted, but does not provide a funding mechanism. It grants supervisory authority to the Board of Regents for Higher Education, Community Colleges, and Vocational Institutions. The existing Board of Regents will be abolished June 30, 1999, and a new board will be chosen by Governor Graves with the approval of the Kansas Senate. Dr. Pomatto will provide more information as it is forthcoming and reminded senators that they can keep track of legislation on the PSU home page.

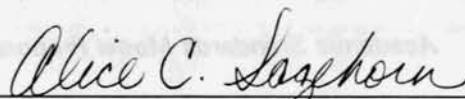
Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m. The Senate will hold its next meeting 3:00 p.m., Monday, September 20, 1999, in Room 102 Yates Hall.

Senate Members Present

See attached list.

Faculty Senate Home Page address: <http://www.pittstate.edu/facsfn/>



Alice C. Sagehorn, PhD
Secretary